

**Brookline Conservation Commission Meeting
Tuesday, January 7, 2014, 7 p.m.
Town Hall, School Committee Room**

Commissioners Present: Kate Bowditch (Chair), Matthew Garvey, Werner Lohe, Gail Fenton, Marcus Quigley, Roberta Schnoor, Marian Lazar

Commissioners Absent: Pam Harvey

Staff Present: Tom Brady, Heather Charles Lis

Guests Present: see attached

AGENDA REVIEW/MINUTES

W. Lohe moved to approve the minutes from 12/3/14. G. Fenton seconded. All in favor.

NOTICE OF INTENT UNDER THE WETLANDS PROTECTION ACT AND THE BROOKLINE WETLANDS BY-LAW FOR ROBERT T. LYNCH MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE AT PUTTERHAM MEADOWS, 1281 WEST ROXBURY PARKWAY, FOR RECONFIGURATION OF HOLE 1 AND ASSOCIATED WORK, SUBMITTED BY LEC ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS ON BEHALF OF CLIENT TOWN OF BROOKLINE, DEP 120-148, BWB 14-01

T. Brady asked for proof and an explanation of abutter notification, and Rich Kirby, wetland scientist with LEC Environmental, explained the current DEP regulations for this size work site and property, and said notification was given to abutters within 100 feet of the work. R. Kirby explained the location on the golf course and the proposed work, including alleviating seasonal flooding at Hole 1 while maintaining playability, drainage systems, biofiltration area, recontouring and regrading, planting plans, and recreating the fairway and green.

M. Lazar asked for clarification on the tree management area on the plans and R. Kirby explained the location, and Robert McNeil, golf architect with The Northeast Golf Company, said some Norway maples are being removed. T. Brady asked about the status of the stream, and R. Kirby said it is not on the USGS map so is presumed intermittent since it doesn't meet criteria for watershed area and low flow indicators, however it becomes perennial at some point downstream and they have designed the project to meet standards for a perennial stream. K. Bowditch asked about observations of the stream and Mike Murphy, golf course staff with the Recreation Department, says he has seen it very low with a narrow trickle, but not completely dry. M. Garvey asked how plants were selected and about the potential for golfers to trample the vegetation, and R. Kirby described the plant selection by wetland status and the use of concrete bounds are marking the area. M. Quigley asked about the underdrains and system connections and R. Kirby explained the system. M. Quigley expressed concern about issues with groundwater depending on its level and R. Kirby discussed the depth of the drainage system and flows on site. T. Brady asked about stream elevation and grade changes and Peter Ditto, Director of Engineering, confirmed the numbers and that it is relatively flat. K. Bowditch thanked the Town for installing a rain garden here, and asked about operations and maintenance plans, and R. Kirby said this is minimal since no sediment is going to the area and discussed mowing once a year and keeping out invasive plants. K. Bowditch asked about longer term planning for water management on the golf course, and Lisa Paradis, Director of Recreation, discussed the master plan, projects that have been recently completed, factors such as expenses and maintenance, and future plans to continue with implementing the master plan. R. McNeil

also discussed the master plan, which he helped work on. T. Brady asked about activity and use limitations in a portion of the fairway and R. Kirby said there will be no excavations in that area.

M. Garvey moved to close the hearing. M. Quigley seconded. All in favor.

DISCUSSION OF HANCOCK VILLAGE COMPREHENSIVE PERMIT APPLICATION FOR THE RESIDENCES OF SOUTH BROOKLINE

W. Lohe recused himself from this agenda item. T. Brady gave the dates for public hearings and comment deadlines for this application and next steps in the process, and Commissioners discussed attending the hearings. T. Brady gave an overview of the application, including similarities to the earlier application, and the various components that were submitted and how Commissioners could access them. Commissioners briefly discussed which laws and regulations the application is subject to, and their purview in terms of wetlands, stormwater and the adjacent D. Blakely Hoar Sanctuary. G. Fenton moved to give permission to M. Quigley and K. Bowditch to work with T. Brady to review the stormwater report and comprehensive permit applications plans, and to develop a draft set of comments to be discussed at the Commission's next meeting on 1/28, in preparation for final comments to be submitted to the Zoning Board of Appeals. R. Schnoor seconded. All in favor.

OPEN SPACE ACTION PLAN REVIEW & DISCUSSION

R. Schnoor reported on the land protection forum being organized for 2/10 at Town Hall and the participating organizations and their goals, overall objectives, the format, and who will be on the panel of speakers and moderating. Commissioners discussed appropriate and useful topics they could discuss and how to participate including on the panel and possibly with a glossary handout. They discussed funding and existing land protection measures such as conservation restrictions and Article 97, and examples of successes, opportunities, and challenges with specific parcels, and protecting both public and private open space. In addition, R. Schnoor and K. Bowditch still intend to meet with B. DeWitt to follow up on Singletree Reservoir and potential future funding opportunities.

STAFF UPDATE

- D. Michener has interviewed for the Commission with the Board of Selectmen.
- There have been no further requests regarding the driveway work at 150/160 Princeton Rd. and work has not proceeded on site.
- Climate week is coming up and T. Brady will be giving a talk on the Muddy River on 1/21.
- The Fisher Hill Reservoir Park project is underway with land clearing starting.
- The Eagle Scout candidate has installed bird houses at D. Blakely Hoar Sanctuary and provided a map and guide. He will attend a meeting to present his work.
- A bald eagle has been sighted in Watertown and around Jamaica Pond.

R. Schnoor moved to adjourn. M. Garvey seconded. All in favor.

Documents Used at the Meeting:

- Meeting agenda
- Draft minutes from 12/3/13
- Notice of Intent for Robert T. Lynch Municipal Golf Course at Putterham Meadows, DEP 120-148, BWB 14-01
- Hancock Village Comprehensive Permit Application for the Residences of South Brookline

Submitted by H. Lis.